

LICENSING & PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 27th June, 2018
Time of Commencement: 7.00 pm

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| Present:- | Councillor Mark Olszewski – in the Chair |
| Councillors | Miss J Cooper, John Cooper, Dymond, Kearon, Parker, Robinson, Sweeney, J Tagg, Walklate, J Waring, S White, G Williams and J Williams |
| Officers | Nesta Barker - Head of Environmental Health Services, Matthew Burton - Licensing Administration Team Manager, Geoff Durham - Mayor's Secretary / Member Support Officer and Anne-Marie Pollard - Solicitor |
| Also in Attendance | Sergeant David Barrow – Staffordshire Police |

1. **PART 1 - LICENSING**

2. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillor T Johnson.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest stated.

4. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Licensing Committee held on 14 February, 2018 be agreed as a correct record.

5. **LICENSING ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT**

Consideration was given to a report advising Members of the key issues and activities undertaken by the Licensing Service in 2017-18.

Members attention was brought to section 2 of the report outlining work of the Licensing Administration Team and Licensing Enforcement activities.

Section three outlined the priorities for 2018-19. Section 3.2 listed additional projects/priorities to be undertaken.

Councillor Kearon queried a review of enforcement that had been mentioned at a previous Council meeting. The Council's Head of Environmental Health Services stated that the Enforcement Policy had been approved at the meeting of the Council held in February this year and would be reviewed in three years' time.

Resolved: That the report be received and the priorities for the 2018/19 work plan be supported.

6. CUMULATIVE IMPACT POLICY

Sergeant David Barrow of Staffordshire Police gave a presentation to Members on the Cumulative Impact Review. All Members received a hard copy of the presentation.

The presentation was given to help Members consider whether the Cumulative Impact Policy was still required and when the policy should be reviewed with a view to transition into a Cumulative Impact Assessment.

Members were advised that Police Officers went into the town in the early morning looking for rough sleepers and working with them, referred them to the Council's Housing team. In addition, the Police were working with the Council to have charity boxes placed around the town which would be used to assist the homeless to help reduce the number of people asking shoppers if they had any spare change.

Police feedback had shown that there had been an improvement in the number of people arrested.

A plan, included within the presentation showed the Cumulative Impact Zone. Councillor Kearon stated that the plan did not map exactly on that of the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) and asked if the Police were picking up issues within the PSPO and whether the Cumulative Impact Zone was giving a complete picture?

Members were advised that it was – in terms of stand-up venues. PSPO's were more to do with Anti-Social Behaviour Orders than violence.

Councillor Kearon had done a walk-around in the town some years ago with Sergeant Speedman and had noted 'feeder' pubs just outside of the town centre. Councillor Kearon asked if that was still an issue.

Sergeant Barrow stated that the resources were no longer available to do those visits. In addition, people were coming into town later than they did before – between 11pm and 12am.

Councillor Cooper made reference to drug dealers operating within the town centre and was advised that any suspicious activities should be reported by calling 101. There will be Officers around the town and CCTV may capture the activities as they happen.

Councillor Robinson told the committee of a random attack he was aware of where an individual had been punched. The same group of people who had carried out that attack had done other things. Councillor Robinson asked about prevention.

Sergeant Barrow stated that a lot of work had been done in respect of drug awareness, stranger danger and knives by visits to schools by PCSO's.

Members were advised that, although a lot of incidents were reported to the police but when statements etc were asked for they were not forthcoming.

The presentation gave an indication of the violent crimes reported in 2015, 2016 and 2017 including the worse affected streets and Anti-Social Behaviour statistics.

The Chair thanked Sergeant Barrow for the presentation.

Members were asked to consider the options shown at paragraph 3.1 of the committee report. Members were asked to consider when the Council should transition from the Cumulative Impact Policy to the Cumulative Impact Assessment.

Resolved: That the current Policy be reviewed in twelve months with a view to transitioning to the new legislation.

7. MINUTES OF LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Licensing Sub-Committee held on 28 March, 2018 be agreed as a correct record.

8. FIVE MINUTES BREAK

9. PART 2 - PUBLIC PROTECTION (OPEN)

10. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest stated.

11. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Public Protection Committee held on 23 April, 2018 be agreed as a correct record.

12. AIR QUALITY ACTION PLAN (2018-2023) CONSULTATION DRAFT JULY 2018

Consideration was given to a report informing Members of the contents of the consultation draft Air Quality Action Plan.

Members attention was drawn to the maps and the Appendices to the report showing the Air Quality Action Areas and the Air Quality Action Plan.

Councillor Robinson felt that not enough was being done by the Highways Authority with regard to emissions.

The Council's Head of Environmental Health Services advised Members that Air quality was a material consideration for all new planning applications.

Resolved: (i) That the report be received.
(ii) That the draft Air Quality Action Plan be approved.
(iii) That the commencement of the consultation be approved.

13. AIR QUALITY ANNUAL STATUS REPORT 2018

Consideration was given to a report advising Members of the statutory Annual Status Report for 2018 which covered the 2017 calendar year in respect of local air quality management within the Borough.

A hard copy of the report was available at the meeting.

Members were advised that the weather had a direct impact on this and that some new 'hotspots' had been identified within the Borough that would continue to be monitored.

Resolved: (i) That the report be received.

14. FOOD SAFETY SERVICE PLAN

Consideration was given to a report advising Members of the work planned by the Food and Safety Team in 2018/19 along with a review of last year's performance.

A copy of the document was attached at page 51 of the agenda.

Resolved: That the Food Safety Service Plan for 2018/19 be received and endorsed.

15. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AND ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Consideration was given to a report informing Members of the key issues and activities undertaken by the Environmental Health Service in 2017-18.

Resolved: That the report be received and the priorities for the 2018-19 work plan be supported.

16. PUBLIC PROTECTION SUB COMMITTEE PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to a report advising Members of the dates, times and membership of the forthcoming Public Protection Sub-Committee meetings.

Members were asked to note the dates and to advise Democratic Services if there were any dates on which they could not attend.

A review of the new committee arrangements would be carried out in twelve months.

Resolved: (i) That the report be received and dates and times for Members' attendance be noted.

(ii) That, in the event of being unable to attend a particular meeting, Democratic Services be notified and an appropriate substitute named.

17. PART 3 - PUBLIC PROTECTION (CLOSED)

18. DISCLOSURE OF EXEMPT INFORMATION

Resolved:- That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration if the following matter because it is likely that there will be disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1,2 and 7 contained within Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972

19. MINUTES OF PUBLIC PROTECTION SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Public Protection Sub-Committee, held on 11 June, 2018, be agreed.

20. **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business.

COUNCILLOR MARK OLSZEWSKI
Chair

Meeting concluded at 8.35 pm